

Energy Committee Meeting Minutes for Wednesday 29 June 2016, 8:30 AM, at the Lanesborough Town Hall

Attendees: Bob Ericson, Gordon Zaks, Dave Vogel, Jack Hickey, Paul Sieloff

The Agenda was the same as the last meeting, not held 8 June due to lack of quorum, as follows:

1. Solar Project Planning: Report of Conversation with Beth Greenblatt, and status of two parcels under discussion. The Committee discussed the parcel on Prospect Street, which was proposed as a solar project three years ago, and failed to elicit any significant proposals, but the site remains viable.

A possible new site location is at the elementary School on land owned by the town and proposed by the 5th and 6th grades, and endorsed by the school committee. During the winter it appeared that a possible location for the panels would be behind the school, on the south east side, along the land abutted by the Wilson family; but some tree cutting would be necessary. However, when this concept was presented to the board of Selectmen, the prospect of cutting the trees was met with opposition. The only other option at the school would be along the 245' fence-line around the drainage catch-basin at the north west corner of the school property. A perpendicular line from the fence points due south, making this location attractive, but there might not be enough area for sufficient panels to make the spot cost effective. More investigation is required!

2. Status of energy projects drawings and conversations with Jim Barry regarding same: We are having trouble finding an architect or engineer to formalize our drawings and sketches of energy conservation projects on the town buildings (Town Hall, Police Station, and any other projects). The Chair wrote a series of e-mails to Jim Barry concerning this blockage on progress, and he offered a number of suggestions including some other nearby towns to contact for their architects or engineers used. He also stated that for most the green energy projects, that usually do not require building structural modifications, the Green Community program does not require PE stamped drawings.

With this in mind, Jack Hickey made a motion to send our current drawings and sketches of the Police Station to the Green Community via Jim Barry. Dave Vogel seconded. No additional discussion. Motion passes unanimous.

3. Status of Town Hall: The drawing of the attic insulation plan to isolate the loss of ceiling heat is at the architects (Berkshire Engineering in Lee) for review and comment. After more than a month, they have just shown some interest!

4. Status of Police Station: See above Item 2 action.

5. Status of DPW Garage energy improvements: Gordon and Dave to look into Infrared Gas Heat for the DPW garage and coordinate with DPW Bill Decelles.

6. Status of Elementary School: The school just bought \$2500 worth of touch free faucets; does this qualify as a future energy savings? Action: Bob Ericson.

7. Status of Energy Use Spreadsheet: The Chair found an error in the accumulation of KWH for the town hall, police station and the DPW garage, that the KWH for the rented streetlight (for parking) at each of these facilities does not roll up in the monthly summary sheet, although the cost does! This means that we have to back over the last 3 years of bills for each facility to correct the spreadsheet. The utility accounting department of Eversource, when contacted about the discrepancy, was uninterested about changing the billing statements for the benefits of ourselves, and others in the Green Community. Jack Hickey suggested a letter to the State Utility Commission requesting a change to the summary billing statements.

8. New Business: Paul Sieloff requested the committee review a proposal from Secure Energy, an energy aggregator, on July 7th or 14th, whichever can be set up. We agreed to attend, whomever can make the to-be-determined date.

9. Minutes (none)

Next Meeting: The morning of July 26, 27 or 29, dependant on Beth Greenblatt's schedule.

Thanks, Bob Ericson, Chair